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New Patent Claims

1. A method for controlling the longitudinal movement  
of a vehicle (3), in particular by means of a  
10 longitudinal movement control system, wherein, for  
vehicle speeds above a threshold speed, the vehicle  
speed is adjusted to a higher selected set speed if no  
vehicle (8) traveling in front is detected, and if a  
vehicle (8) traveling in front is detected the distance  
15 from this vehicle (8) traveling in front is adjusted,  
characterized in that, below the threshold speed, the  
longitudinal movement of the vehicle (3) is controlled  
only if a vehicle (8) traveling in front is detected,  
the control below the threshold speed being carried out  
20 by adjusting the distance from the vehicle (8)  
traveling in front.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in  
that a uniform operating control concept is used for  
25 controlling the longitudinal movement over the entire  
speed range.

3. The method as claimed in one of the preceding  
claims, characterized in that the control of the  
30 longitudinal movement below the threshold speed is  
carried out according to the concept of tracking  
functionality.

4. The method as claimed in one of the preceding  
35 claims, characterized in that the driver of the vehicle  
is provided with a signal, in particular an audible

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and/or visual signal, if the longitudinal movement control system is not active and/or cannot be activated below the threshold speed.

5     5.     The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that after the vehicle (3) is in a stationary state, the driver is requested to enable automatic following of a guide vehicle (8).

10    6.     The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the maximum deceleration capacity is increased as the vehicle's own speed drops.

15    7.     The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the surroundings of the vehicle (3) are sensed in the area in front, in particular sensed without gaps.

20    8.     The method as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that three lanes (4 - 6) are sensed.

25    9.     A longitudinal movement control system of a vehicle (3), in particular for carrying out the method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, having a control unit for controlling the longitudinal movement of the vehicle (3) and having a detection device for vehicles (8) traveling in front, characterized in that the system is active and/or can be activated below a threshold speed only if a vehicle (8) traveling in front is detected, the control when the system is active below the threshold speed being carried out by adjusting the distance from the vehicle (8) traveling in front.

35    10.    The system as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the detection device comprises sensors for sensing

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the short-range area in front of the vehicle (3)  
without gaps.

11. The system as claimed in claim 10, characterized  
5 in that a plurality of distributed beam sensors are  
provided.

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